

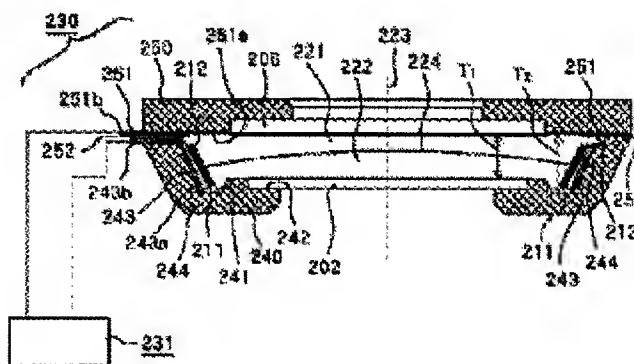
OPTICAL ELEMENT, OPTICAL DEVICE AND PHOTOGRAPHING DEVICE

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Inventor: NOTO GORO; ONUKI ICHIRO; KAWANAMI EIRISHI
Applicant: CANON KK
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Abstract of JP2002169005

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To reduce the thickness of an optical element which uses the effect of electro-wetting. **SOLUTION:** In the optical element, a first liquid 221 having conductivity or polarity and a second liquid 222 which does not mix with the first liquid are housed in a container 240, 250, and the interface 224 between the first liquid and the second liquid changes its form to change the optical characteristics of the element according to the changes in the voltage applied between a first electrode 251 in contact with the first liquid and a second electrode 243 disposed in the container side. In this element, the inner face of the container which faces in the direction of the optical axis and which is the counter interface face in contact with the surface of the second liquid opposite to the above interface is formed such that the center part 302 is made nearer to the above interface than the peripheral part 241.



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